CURRENT EVENTS.

(Continued from page 13.) "Since Mr. Wilson took office in March, 1913, he has been a constant object of interest to Europe, first in regard to Mexico, and then in connection with the war. But his methods cannot be fully understood unless one studies his domestic policy, and the great merit of this book is that it provides an intelligent summary of the measures which Mr. Wilson has caused Congress to adopt. He defied the conventions at the very start by making his inaugural speech to the two Houses, instead of sending them a written message, as every President had done since the days of Jefferson. He called upon Congress to reform the tariff, abolishing "everything that

bears even the semblance of privilege or of any kind of artificial advantage"; and when the manufacturing interests in the Senate tried to amend the scheme for the benefit of this or that industry, he intervened with so sharp a public protest that the tariff bill was passed almost unaltered. Next, he asked Congress to put the currency on a sound basis by setting up Federal Reserve Banks with a central Board, and, despite the opposition of the bankers and of many cautious politicians, he again had his way. He went on to deal with the trusts, whose powers had increased to an alarming extent through the system of "Interlocking directorships," so that, for example, the directors of the Steel Trust controlled more than half the railways

in America, and one great financial house held thirty important directorships in railway, telegraph and industrial companies. The establishment of a Federal Trade Commission to inquire into the trusts and control their operations was the main outcome of the President's proposals.' The trusts found it useless to fight a President who laid his program before the nation, and asked the electors to make it clear to the senators and representatives that they approved of Mr. Wilson's schemes. Before and during the war he has also secured several important measures dealing with labor. By direct personal intervention he induced Congress to exempt trade unions from the veto on "combinations in restraint of trade," so that a

strike could not be stopped by a mere injunction of the courts; and he also obtained an act severely restricting child labor, which had for too long been a disgrace to industrial America. Last summer, when he had to face the threat of a national railway strike for an eight-hour day, he caused Congress to pass in three days an emergency measure granting the strikers' demands, but providing that in case of need the railways should be put under military control. Whatever the merits of the case may have been, the President's prompt and vigorous action showed that he has the capacity for leadership in a crisis. It is not surprising that with such a domestic record Mr. Wilson should have been re-elected last November, with a triumphant majority of half a million votes, though New England and the Middle West were against him. The nine million votes cast for Mr. Wilson attested the confidence which he inspires in the average American elector, and gave him full authority to continue his work.

"We cannot discuss here Mr. Wilson's Mexican policy—governed always by his desire to cultivate good relations with Latin America as a whole-or his attitude towards the war. The author summarizes the story very well, and ends at the severance of relations with Germany on February 2nd. He also gives in an appendix Mr. Wilson's second inaugural speech, which, as all now see, pointed unmistakably to the iminent war. We have laid stress on the President's firm and capable administration of domestic affairs, and on his evident skill in interpreting the trend of opinion throughout the United States, because the facts show that he is an ally whom we can trust. When he was neutral, he maintained a vigorous neutrality, regardless of criticism. Now that he has come into the war, he will persevere in it to the end. American people stand behind Mr. Wilson, and will follow him unquestioningly, as it has followed none since Washington, With the help of America under such a President, we can feel perfectly secure as to the issue of the war, though the end is not in sight."



From London Punch.

Because they speak the tongue that's mine,

Rich in the treasure that belongs To them as well as me, and twine Their heart-strings in our English

songs,
I knew they'd scorn those German

And sham regrets.

Because their country's name is scrolled

With Liberty's; because her fate, Like England's own, must be unrolled In Freedom still, they had to hate The thought of bowing down before A Lord of War.

And now they'll lavish in the strife
The gold they've scorned to love
too well,

And fleets to bring the food that's life, And guns of death, and steel, and shell:

Defeat or triumph, stand or fall, They'll share their all.

They're out for business; now's their Day;

They took their time, but finished right;

The heat got slowly comes to stay;
Patient for peace means firm in
fight;
And so their country still shall be

Land of the Free.

